



City of Venice

401 West Venice Avenue
Venice, FL 34285
www.venicegov.com

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

Broadcast

[22-5391](#)

Instructions on How to Watch and/or Participate in the Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Mayor Pachota called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Recess was taken from 9:00 a.m. until 9:10 a.m. due to technical difficulties.

ROLL CALL

There was consensus to excuse Mayor Feinsod for medical reasons.

Present: 7 - Mayor Ron Feinsod, Vice Mayor Nick Pachota, Dr. Joseph Neunder, Dr. Mitzie Fiedler, Mr. Jim Boldt, Ms. Helen Moore and Mrs. Rachel Frank

ALSO PRESENT

City Attorney Kelly Fernandez, City Clerk Kelly Michaels, Deputy City Clerk Mercedes Barcia, City Manager Ed Lavalley, Acting Information Technology Director Eric Tanner, and Administrative Coordinator Toni Cone, and for certain items on the agenda: Finance Director Linda Senne, and Planning and Zoning Director Roger Clark.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Clerk Michaels provided the Invocation and Dr. Fiedler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. RECOGNITION

[22-5392](#)

Swearing in: City Clerk Kelly Michaels

Deputy Clerk Barcia swore in Clerk Michaels.

[22-5393](#)

Swearing in: New Council Member Rachel Frank

Clerk Michaels swore in Mrs. Frank.

[22-5394](#)

2021 Holiday Card Winner: Rallson Hendricks, Grade 4, Venice

Elementary School

City Manager Lavalley presented this award to Rallson Hendricks.

[22-5395](#)

Certificate of Achievement and Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year Ending 2020 from the Government Finance Officers Association Presented to Finance Director Linda Senne

Vice Mayor Pachota presented the Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Finance Director Senne.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION will be limited to one hour.

There was none.

III. CONSENT SECTION:

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Dr. Neunder to approve items in the Consent Section. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

A. MAYOR

[22-5396](#)

Appoint Lissa MacDonald to the Architectural Review Board to Serve a Term from February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2025

This appointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[22-5397](#)

Appoint Jonathan Free to the Code Enforcement Board to Serve a Term from February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2025

This appointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[22-5398](#)

Appoint Kaj Jensen to the Environmental Advisory Board to Serve a Term from January 11, 2022 to January 31, 2025

This appointment was approved on the Consent Agenda.

[22-5399](#)

Appoint Richard Hale, Jerry Jasper, Pam Schierberg, and Bill Willson to the Planning Commission to Serve Terms from February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2025

These appointments were approved on the Consent Agenda.

B. CITY CLERK

[22-5400](#)

Minutes of the December 14, 2021 Regular Meeting

These minutes were approved on the Consent Agenda.

C. CITY MANAGER

Finance

[22-5401](#) Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Interlocal Agreement Providing for the Administration of a Joint County/Municipality Economic Development Program Between the City of Sarasota, City of North Port, City of Venice and Town of Longboat Key

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

Planning and Zoning

[22-5402](#) Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Developer's Agreement between Border Road Investments, LLC, Myarra Property Joint Ventures, LLC, Woolridge Investment-Florida, LLC, and FC Laurel, LLC Florida Limited Liability Companies and the City of Venice for the GCCF Planned Unit Development (PUD)

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

Utilities

[22-5403](#) Authorize the Mayor to Execute the State Revolving Fund Loan Agreement DW580480 between the City of Venice and Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agency for the Booster Pump Station and Water Treatment Plant Switchgear and Generator Projects

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

IV. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT

There were none.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

[ORD. NO.](#)
[2022-02](#) An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 86, Land Development Code, Article II, Administration and Review Authorities, Section 86-25, Architectural Review Board; Providing for Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Vice Mayor Pachota opened the public hearing.

There were no written communications and no one signed up to speak.

Vice Mayor Pachota closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Boldt, that Ordinance No.

2022-02 be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

Excused: 1 - Mayor Feinsod

ORD. NO.
2022-03

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the 2017-2027 Comprehensive Plan Pursuant to Petition No. 21-55CP to Incorporate the Annual Update of Data on Development Activity Within the Mixed Use Future Land Use Categories in Each Comprehensive Plan Neighborhood; Providing for Repeal of All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith to the Extent of Such Conflict; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date
Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Vice Mayor Pachota opened the public hearing.

There were no written communications.

Planning and Zoning Director Clark answered Council questions regarding the zoning of East Venice Avenue, mixed use designations, density, and Comprehensive Plan updates.

Discussion continued regarding the Joint Planning Agreement (JPA), number of units, growth, and Comprehensive Plan Development Data Updates for City Council.

No one signed up to speak.

Vice Mayor Pachota closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Mr. Boldt, seconded by Dr. Neunder, that Ordinance No. 2022-03 be approved on first reading and transmitted to the Department of Economic Opportunity for review. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

Excused: 1 - Mayor Feinsod

B. ORDINANCES – FINAL READING

ORD. NO.
2021-43

An Ordinance of the City of Venice, Florida, Amending the 2017-2027 City of Venice Comprehensive Plan Pursuant to Petition No. 21-32CP by Amending the Text in Strategy LU 1.2.9.C Corridor (MUC) to Allow Properties with Existing Industrial Uses in the Laurel Road Mixed Use Corridor Future Land Use Designation to be Rezoned to the Industrial, Light and Warehousing (ILW) District and to Allow Existing PID Zoned Properties to Remain as Grandfathered; Amending the Table in Strategy

LU 1.2.9 Mixed Use Category to Add Planned Industrial District (PID) as an Implementing District of the Mixed Use Corridor Future Land Use Designation; Providing for Repeal of all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Vice Mayor Pachota opened the public hearing.

There were no written communications and no one signed up to speak.

Vice Mayor Pachota closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Ms. Moore, that Ordinance No. 2021-43 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

Excused: 1 - Mayor Feinsod

ORD. NO.
2021-44

An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Atlas of the City of Venice, Florida, Pursuant to Zoning Map Amendment Petition No. 21-33RZ, to Change the Zoning Designation for the Property Generally Located at 3530 Laurel Road East (5± Acres), from Sarasota County Open Use Estate (OUE-1) to City of Venice Industrial, Light and Warehousing (ILW); Providing for Repeal of all Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; Providing for Severability; and Providing an Effective Date (Quasi-Judicial)

Vice Mayor Pachota announced this is a quasi-judicial hearing.

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Vice Mayor Pachota opened the public hearing.

City Attorney Fernandez questioned Council regarding exparte communications and conflicts of interest. There were none. Mrs. Frank stated she had viewed the first hearing regarding this petition.

There were no written communications and no one signed up to speak.

Vice Mayor Pachota closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Dr. Neunder, that based on the evidence in the record, Ordinance No. 2021-44 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

Excused: 1 - Mayor Feinsod

ORD. NO.
2022-01

An Ordinance Amending City of Venice Ordinance No. 2021-32 Which Adopted the Official Budget of the City of Venice, Florida for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2021 and Ending September 30, 2022; By Increasing the Total Revenue by \$1,450,000 and Total Expenditures By \$1,450,000; and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

Vice Mayor opened the public hearing.

There were no written communications and no one signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Mr. Boldt, seconded by Ms. Moore, that Ordinance No. 2022-01 be approved and adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

Excused: 1 - Mayor Feinsod

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

21-5324

Mayor and Council Liaison Appointments

Recess was taken from 9:46 a.m. until 10 a.m.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Mr. Boldt, that Item No. 21-5324, Mayor and Council Liaison Appointments be moved to the Council Action/Discussion section of the agenda. The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

Discussion took place regarding Council Liaison appointments Resolution No. 2014-24 regarding Council Liaisons and Resolution No. 2021-02 regarding advisory boards and reporting.

Discussion continued regarding the process for liaison appointments and the benefits of external boards.

City Attorney Fernandez noted that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) appointment is a four year term or until the member is no longer serving in their role with the City Council.

City Manager Lavallee noted that some external boards have requested a Council representative.

Discussion took place regarding finalizing the selections of Council Liaison appointments at today's meeting.

Vice Mayor Pachota passed the gavel to Dr. Fiedler.

Vice Mayor Pachota made a motion to finish discussion of Council Liaison Appointments and finalize selections at the end of the agenda.

Dr. Fiedler passed the gavel back to Vice Mayor Pachota.

Dr. Fiedler seconded the motion.

The motion carried by voice vote unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES - FIRST READING

[ORD. NO.](#)
[2022-04](#)

An Ordinance Amending City of Venice Ordinance No. 2021-32 Which Adopted the Official Budget of the City of Venice, Florida for the Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2021 and Ending September 30, 2022; by Increasing the Total Revenue by \$337,000 and Total Expenditures by \$337,000; and Providing an Effective Date

Clerk Michaels read the ordinance by title only.

No one signed up to speak.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Ms. Moore, that Ordinance No. 2022-04 be approved on first reading and scheduled for final reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

Excused: 1 - Mayor Feinsod

B. COUNCIL ACTION/DISCUSSION

[22-5404](#)

Consider Release of Habitat for Humanity Parcel Restrictions (Neunder)

There was consensus to allow a speaker to address Council as public comment during this agenda item.

Martin Black, 602 84th St NW, Palma Sola, requested City Council direct the City Attorney to draft an agreement to release Habitat for Humanity from the deed and share in the proceeds upon sale of the parcel.

Discussion took place regarding a request to schedule Habitat for Humanity for a presentation at a future City Council meeting.

Recess was taken from 10:51 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

There was consensus to allow Habitat for Humanity representatives to speak as audience participants for two minutes each.

There was consensus to allow Michael Sollitto to utilize the two minutes of two other speakers.

Michael Sollitto, 4251 Conrad Rd, spoke on behalf of Habitat for Humanity and discussed the Knights Trail agreement and the Portofino agreement and infrastructure. The organization has maintained ownership and paid taxes since recovering the parcel from the city.

Joe Dalton, 105 Bluegrass Court, Nokomis, turned his time over to Michael Sollitto.

Christine McCauley, 1670 Virginia St., North Port, turned her time over to Michael Sollitto.

Mr. Sollitto continued discussing an exit to the agreement.

Discussion took place regarding a staff presentation for a possible exit agreement for the situation and requesting information from Habitat for Humanity about the specifics of their request.

There was consensus to have City Manager Lavallee communicate with Habitat for Humanity regarding their request to be released from the deed restrictions in order to sell the property and split the proceeds with the City with the goal of having staff report back to council. The staff report to include the potential for an exit agreement including the property's value; as well as their investments and costs to maintain the property.

[21-5324](#)

Mayor and Council Liaison Appointments

Discussion took place regarding this process going forward.

A motion was made by Dr. Fiedler, seconded by Ms. Moore, to accept Council Liaison appointments as selected on the Council floor.

Yes: 6 - Vice Mayor Pachota, Dr. Neunder, Dr. Fiedler, Mr. Boldt, Ms. Moore and Mrs. Frank

Excused: 1 - Mayor Feinsod

VIII. CHARTER OFFICER REPORTS

City Attorney

City Attorney Fernandez had no report.

City Clerk

Clerk Michaels had no report.

City Manager

City Manager Lavallee welcomed Mrs. Frank and reported that the City Finance Department had received the Government Finance Officers Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting 34 years in a row.

City Manager Lavallee responded to request for Council retreat meeting, reports from more departments, the asset management plan, transportation workshop, Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), Capital Improvement Schedule (CIS), and frequency of reporting on these.

Discussion took place regarding scheduling a retreat meeting.

IX. COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Moore

Ms. Moore congratulated the Finance Department. She noted Venice MainStreet has been very appreciative of events, and Venice Area Beautification, Inc. (VABI) should also have a liaison.

City Manager noted that VABI had previously had a liaison.

There was consensus to add Venice Area Beautification, Inc. (VABI) to the list of Council Liaison Appointments.

Council Member Fiedler

Dr. Fiedler had no report.

Council Member Frank

Mrs. Frank thanked Council for their support of her appointment.

Council Member Neunder

Dr. Neunder wished everyone a Happy New Year and offered congratulations to Mrs. Frank, Clerk Michaels, and Finance Director Senne.

Council Member Boldt

Mr. Boldt congratulated Mrs. Frank and the Finance Department and offered to be a back up to other Council Members when they cannot attend liaison meetings.

Vice Mayor Pachota

Vice Mayor Pachota welcomed Mrs. Frank and Clerk Michaels. He commented on the Historic Preservation Board meeting, and noted there will be a Certified Local Government (CLG) presentation at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Feinsod

Mayor Feinsod was excused.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor - City of Venice

City Clerk